



## Nematode Sampling Problems

[www.ncagr.com/agronomi/uyrnem.htm](http://www.ncagr.com/agronomi/uyrnem.htm)

Please consider the appropriate comment below concerning the soil sample(s) you submitted for nematode assay.

### Note Comment

- 4-1** The sample submitted was too small to obtain a reliable assay. Therefore, interpret the results with caution. For a reliable assay, a sample at least one quart in size is necessary.
- 4-2** The sample was either too wet or too dry and may not have provided a reliable assay. Soil moisture levels similar to those for cultivation are optimum for nematode sampling. Placing the samples in plastic bags prior to shipment to the laboratory will prevent drying.
- 4-3** Very few nematodes were recovered from this sample. Since you did not indicate a recent soil fumigation, we suspect that the sample did not provide reliable assay material. Therefore, interpret the results cautiously, especially if a B recommendation was given. The population may have been underestimated.

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### For Additional Assistance

- Call your NCDA&CS regional agronomist or the Agronomic Division office in Raleigh (919-733-2655).
- Visit the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division Web site at [www.ncagr.com/agronomi/](http://www.ncagr.com/agronomi/).
- Visit your county Cooperative Extension office.
- Refer to the following online publications.
  - *Sampling for plant-parasitic nematodes* (NCDA&CS Agronomic Division, 2006)  
— [www.ncagr.com/agronomi/pdf/samnemas.pdf](http://www.ncagr.com/agronomi/pdf/samnemas.pdf)
  - *Taking soil samples for nematode assay* (NCDA&CS Agronomic Division, 2006)  
— page 2 of [www.ncagr.com/agronomi/pdf/isnemr.pdf](http://www.ncagr.com/agronomi/pdf/isnemr.pdf)
  - *Taking field samples for diagnostic nematode assay* (NCDA&CS Agronomic Division, 2006)  
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